

Assembly Bill No. 1880

CHAPTER 316

An act to add and repeal Section 7202.5 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to mental institutions.

[Approved by Governor September 18, 2006. Filed with
Secretary of State September 18, 2006.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1880, Blakeslee. State hospitals: care of the mentally disordered.

Under existing law, the State Department of Mental Health has jurisdiction over 5 hospitals, including Atascadero State Hospital, for the care, treatment, and education of the mentally disordered.

This bill would require the Atascadero State Hospital director to develop a hospitalwide strategic plan that includes strategies to improve the health, safety, therapeutic, and workplace environment with relation to the presence or use of tobacco products, as specified, to improve staff and patient safety, to decrease violent incidents and reduce future violent incidents, to better utilize staff resources, and to increase local recruitment and improve staff retention. This bill would require the hospital director to develop this plan through the hospital's strategic planning process, and to invite participation in that process from stakeholders within and outside of the hospital organization, and to include representatives from specified entities. The bill would require the director to provide this report to the Atascadero State Hospital Advisory Board on or before June 30, 2007, 2008, and 2009.

This bill would repeal these provisions on January 1, 2010.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 7202.5 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

7202.5. (a) The Atascadero State Hospital director shall develop a hospitalwide strategic plan that shall include, but not be limited to, a description of all of the following:

- (1) Strategies to improve staff and patient safety.
- (2) Strategies to better manage incidents of violent and aggressive behavior at the hospital, and to reduce the number of these incidents.
- (3) Strategies to better utilize hospital staff resources.
- (4) Strategies to increase local recruitment and improve hospital staff retention.

(5) Strategies to improve the health, safety, therapeutic, and workplace environment as they relate to the presence or use of tobacco products, including cigarettes, cigars, snuff, and chewing tobacco, by all staff, visitors, patients, and persons on hospital grounds.

(b) The hospital director shall develop this plan through the hospital's annual strategic planning process. The hospital director shall invite participation in that process from stakeholders within and outside of the hospital organization, and shall include one representative each from, and nominated by:

- (1) Protection and Advocacy, Inc.
- (2) The California Office of Patient Rights.
- (3) The California Medical Association.
- (4) The California Psychological Association.
- (5) The California Psychiatric Association.
- (6) State Bargaining Unit 7.
- (7) State Bargaining Unit 16.
- (8) State Bargaining Unit 17.
- (9) State Bargaining Unit 18.
- (10) State Bargaining Unit 19.
- (11) State Bargaining Unit 20.

(c) The strategies or objectives established through the hospital's annual strategic planning process must be consistent and coincide with the enhancement plan requirements established and agreed to with the United States Department of Justice.

(d) The hospital director shall provide the completed hospitalwide strategic plan to the Atascadero State Hospital Advisory Board on or before June 30, 2007, and on or before June 30 of 2008 and 2009.

(e) Stakeholders who are invited to participate in the annual strategic planning conference shall do so at their own expense. Stakeholders that are unable to attend the conference may submit written input or comments to the hospital director.

(f) Strategic planning participants shall collaborate with, and provide consultation to, the hospital director in the development of strategies described in paragraphs (1) to (5), inclusive, of subdivision (a).

(g) The hospital director shall provide all strategic planning conference participants with all of the following:

- (1) A written record of the conference within 30 days of the date of the conference.
- (2) A copy of the strategic plan within 90 days of the date of the conference.
- (3) An evaluation of the progress towards achievement of the strategic plan goals within 180 days of the date of the conference. The progress evaluation shall be provided to the conference participants no later than 30 days prior to the date of the next annual conference.

(h) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2010, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2010, deletes or extends that date.

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